

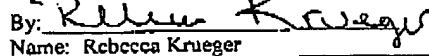
JUN 16 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	ROSSAI ET AL.	Examiner:	UNKNOWN
Serial No.:	10/672,238	Group Art Unit:	1652
Filed:	SEPTEMBER 25, 2003	Docket:	.12546.2USC4
Confirmation No.:	8516		
Due Date:	MARCH 2, 2004		
Title:	HYBRIDIZATION PROBES DERIVED FROM THE SPACER REGION BETWEEN THE 16S AND 23S RRBA GENES FOR THE DETECTION OF NON-VIRAL MICROORGANISMS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 16, 2006.

By:



Name: Rebecca Krueger

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action mailed April 20, 2006, the claim of the current application was divided into the following embodiments:

Group I: Claims 41-72 and 75-86, drawn to nucleic acid probes and methods of detection using said nucleic acid probes

Group II: Claims 73 and 74, drawn to methods for obtaining a nucleic acid probe

Applicants elect, without traverse, to prosecute the Group I embodiment, claims 41-72 and 75-86.

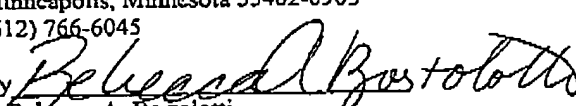
Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P. C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 766-6045

Date:

6/16/06

By:


Rebecca A. Bortolotti
Reg. No. 51,488
RAB:rlk

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE